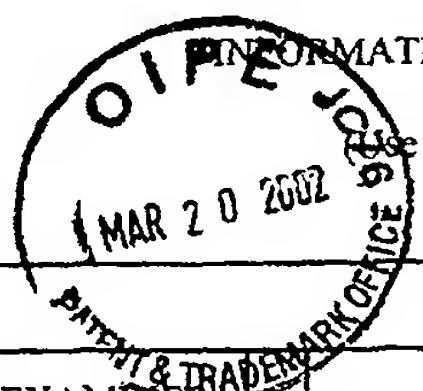


|  |  |  |         |                                     |          |                               |  |
|--|--|--|---------|-------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|--|
| Form PTO-1449  |  | U.S. Department of Commerce<br>Patent and Trademark Office |         | Atty. Docket No.<br>P21831          |          | Serial No.<br>10/022,342      |  |
|   |  |  |         | Applicant<br>Katsuji SHIBATA et al. |          |                               |  |
|  |  |  |         | Filing Date<br>December 20, 2001    |          | Group<br>1753                 |  |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS  |  |  |         |                                     |          |                               |  |
| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL  | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER                                   | DATE   | NAME    | CLASS                               | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |  |
|  |  |  |         |                                     |          |                               |  |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS   |  |  |         |                                     |          |                               |  |
|  | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER                                   | DATE   | COUNTRY | CLASS                               | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION<br>YES NO         |  |
| KIWL   | 5 - 1 3 9 7 1 5                                      | 06/08/93   | JAPAN   |                                     |          | Abs                           |  |
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|  | 8 - 1 1 3 6 1 9                                      | 05/07/96   | JAPAN   |                                     |          | Abs                           |  |
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| <div style="float: right; text-align: left;"> <b>RECEIVED</b><br/> MAR 21 2002<br/> <b>TC 1700</b> </div>  |  |  |         |                                     |          |                               |  |
| EXAMINER   | Kataama Hiroe  |  |         | DATE CONSIDERED                     |          |                               |  |
|  |  |  |         | Sept. 17, 03                        |          |                               |  |
| *EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |  |  |         |                                     |          |                               |  |